(c) Under the New Education the Programme of Non-formal Education was reorganised and expanded in 1987. To provide education of a quality comparable to that of formal schools to school drop-outs, working children, girls who cannot attend whole-day schools and children from habitations without schools, the programme emphasises organisational flexibility, relevance of curriculum, diversity in learning activities to relate them to the learner's needs, and decentralisation of management. The selection of local, committed persons, preferably women as instructors; intensive training; close supervision by part-time trained local youth; organisation of centres into projects in compact and contiguous areas easily amenable to supervision and monitoring; strengthening of district and state levels; involvement of voluntary agencies and scope for continuing education are some of the other features of the non-formal education programme.

Dilapidated condition of House of Shri Bankim Chandra Chatterjee etc.

2620. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: *Will the Minister of* HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ancestral houses of Shri Bankim Chandra Chatterjee, Swami Vivekanand and Raja Ram Mohan Roy in West Bengal are in dilapidated condition; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to acquire and to preserve these houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected from the State Government of West Bengal which is primarily concerned with the matter. It will be laid on the Table of the House, when received.

2621. *[Transferred to the 23rd August,* 1988].

Development of Indigenous System of Medicine

2622. PROF. (MRS.) ASIMA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to develop the Indigenous System of Medicine in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government have evoked any special machinery to distribute the indigeous drugs to the masses in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) The National Health Policy lays emphasis on the development of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy ensuring that each system develops fully and according to its genius.

The Government have taken various steps to develop these systems by way of improving the quality of education, laying of Pharmacopoeial standards of drugs and their quality control; Research activities through various Research Councils, etc. It is the endeavour to involve Practitioners of Indian Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy in Primary Health Care and Family Welfare Programmes. The State Governments have been requested to take specific measures in this regard. The development of Medicinal Plants, particularly those commonly used in Indian drugs, is another area on which emphasis is being laid.

(c) Health being a State subject, each State Government has developed its own System for providing medical care (including drugs or indigenous

system of medicine) through its network of hospitals, dispensaries, Primary Health Centres, etc.

Resignations by Air India Pilots

2623. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sixteen check pilots of Air India have tendered their resignations;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures have been taken or proposed to be taken by Government to redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Nineteen check pilots of Air India have tendered their resignation from check pilotship. They have given no reasons for this action in their letters.

(c) Air India have contacted the Indain Pilots Guild who represent the community of pilots in this regard.

Orissa Town covered by Vayudoot Services

2624. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the name of towns in Orissa which have been brought under Vayudoot map, as on the 30th June, 1988;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to introduce Vayudoot service between Bhubaneswar and some other district/towns of the State; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Vayudoot has so far airlinked Bhubaneswar, Jeypore, and Rourkela in the State of Orissa.

(b) and (c) Subject to availability of aircraft capacity, development of infrastructure and economic viability of operations, Vayudoot has plans to airlink Gopalpur and Jharsuguda in the State of Orissa during the current plan period.

Allocation of Maintenance of National Highways in Andhra Pradesh

2625. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what amount is being granted annually for the maintenance of *National Highways in Andhra Pradesh*, per kilometre and when this norm has been in existence; and

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to enhance the said amount in order to improve the condition of National Highways in that State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Allocation for maintenance of National Highways is not made on kilometre basis. Norms of maintenance were decided by a Technical Group set up by the Government of India in 1968. These norms are up-dated from time to time on the basis of Price Index, and allocation is made to all the States including Andhra Pradesh, on a pro-rata basis depending upon the availability of resources.

Widening of Vijayawada Guntur National Highway

2626. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to acquire land for widening of National Highway between Vijayawada and Guntur into four lanes; what amount has been allotted to widen this highway, by when the work is going to be started and by when it would be completed; and